

REMARKS

The present amendment is submitted in response to the Office Action dated September 11, 2006, which set a three-month period for response, making this amendment due by December 11, 2006.

Claims 1 and 3-15 are pending in this application.

In the Office Action, the specification and claims 1-15 were objected to for various informalities. Claims 1-15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Claims 1, 5, 7-11, and 13-15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 2,233,862 to Dremel in view of U.S. Patent No. 1,826,983 to Beebe and U.S. Patent No. 5,027,518 to Adomatis.

The Applicants note with appreciation the allowance of claims 2-4, 6 and 12 if rewritten to overcome the rejections under Section 112, second paragraph and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

In the present amendment, the specification has been amended to address the objections, to add a cross reference to the priority document, and to add standard headings.

Claim 1 was amended to add the features of allowable claim 2, which was canceled. Claim 1 was amended further to address all of the instances of indefinite language noted under the rejection under Section 112, second paragraph, as were all of claims 3-15.

Because claim 1 now includes the features of allowable claim 2, claim 1 now stands in condition for allowance. Claims 3-15, all of which depend on allowable claim 1, are allowable as well.

The Applicants respectfully submit that this application now stands in condition for allowance. Action to this end is courteously solicited.

Should the Examiner have any further comments or suggestions, the undersigned would very much welcome a telephone call in order to discuss appropriate claim language that will place the application into condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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